

U S Army Corps of Engineers

Huntington District

Public Notice

In reply refer to Public Notice No.

Issuance Date:

200501208

July 17, 2006

Stream:

Closing Date:

Kanawha River (MP 38.8 – 38.9) LDB

August 16, 2006

Please address all comments and inquiries to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District

ATTN: CELRH-OR-F Public Notice No. (reference above)

502 Eighth Street

Huntington, West Virginia 25701-2070

Phone: (304) 399-5710

PUBLIC NOTICE: The purpose of this public notice is to inform you of a proposal for work in which you might be interested. It is also to solicit your comments and information to better enable us to make a reasonable decision on factors affecting the public interest. We hope you will participate in this process.

REGULATORY PROGRAM: Since its early history, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has played an important role in the development of the nation's water resources. Originally, this involved construction of harbor fortifications and coastal defenses. Later duties included the improvement of waterways to provide avenues of commerce. An important part of our mission today is the protection of the nation's waterways through the administration of the Corps Regulatory Program.

SECTION 10: The Corps is directed by Congress under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 403) to regulate all work or structures in or affecting the course, condition or capacity of navigable waters of the United States (U.S.). The intent of this law is to protect the navigable capacity of waters important to interstate commerce.

SECTION 404: The Corps is directed by Congress under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344) to regulate the discharge of dredged and fill material into all waters of the United States, including wetlands. The intent of the law is to protect the nation's waters from the indiscriminate discharge of material capable of causing pollution and to restore and maintain their chemical, physical and biological integrity.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The following application has been submitted for a Department of the Army Permit under the provisions of Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. This notice serves as the Corps of Engineers' request to the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection to act on Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the following application.

APPLICANT: Appalachian Power Company-John Amos Plant c/o American Electric Power
1 Riverside Plaza
Columbus, Ohio 43215

LOCATION: The proposed project would be located near the town of St. Albans, along the left descending bank of the Kanawha River between approximate mile points 38.3 and 38.9, in Putnam County, West Virginia. **Drawing No. 1** depicts the location of the proposed activities.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED WORK: Compliance with Title IV of the Clean Air Act requires a reduction of sulfur dioxide emissions that may be achieved through installation of a flue gas desulphurization (FGD) system. FGD systems are commonly known as "scrubbers" since they remove pollutants resulting from the combustion of coal utilized in generating electricity. Limestone is used as a reagent to chemically extract sulfur dioxide from flue gas prior to it being exhausted into the atmosphere. Operation of the FGD system would require the delivery of approximately 1,022,000 tons of limestone annually. The applicant proposes to construct a 230 acre solid waste landfill for disposal of combustion by-products (gypsum), which would include impacts to an unnamed tributary of Lick Run Creek, Bills Creek and Little Hurricane Creek. The landfill would receive an estimated total of 1,825,000 tons of gypsum annually and is expected to have an operational life of 15 years. Construction of an access road to the landfill would involve the placement of five, six feet wide by five feet high box culverts placed side-by-side in Bills Creek. The information provided indicates the landfill construction and associated leachate system and access road would permanently impact a total of 21,990 linear feet of stream. Access road construction would permanently impact a total of 0.36-acre of wetlands.

The proposed project would involve the construction of a fleeting facility for mooring loaded and empty barges, which would include the installation of ten mooring cells, one unloading cell equipped with a crane for unloading and dredging a 1,600 feet by 50 feet area. The cells would involve the placement of an approximate total of 1,696 cubic yards of clean granular rubble placed over a geotextile soil separator at or below the ordinary high water mark. Dredging performed by a clamshell bucket would remove an average depth of 4.5 feet (14,500 cubic yards). The project would involve one utility line (slurry pipeline) crossing an unnamed tributary. The project would also involve the construction of an unloading ramp (100 feet in width at shoreline) to receive barge delivery of large prefabricated FGD system componets. The unloading ramp construction would be accomplished by clamshell bucket excavation as well as shoreline and/or side-slope excavation that would be performed by backhoe. All dredged and excavated materials would be transported by truck to the proposed upland disposal site. Runoff from the disposal site would be collected by a peripheral ditch, which discharges into AEP's wastewater treatment system (NPDES Permit No. WV0001074). The fleeting facility shoreline and ramp construction would involve the placement of approximately 1,200 cubic yards of limestone for stream bank stabilization.

MITIGATION PLAN: The applicant has provided a conceptual compensatory mitigation plan (CMP) to offset the impacts to jurisdictional waters of the U. S., which are regulated by the

Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers. The conceptual CMP proposes the following: a) preservation of 125 acres of forest, which includes 5,000 linear feet of stream; b) preservation of 50 acres of existing wetland in the vicinity of the AEP/Toyota wetland; and c) preservation of an undisclosed acreage between the AEP/Toyota wetland and the Kanawha River, which would be restored and/or enhanced by riparian re-vegetation (upland buffer zone) as well as bank stabilization and in-stream aquatic habitat.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: Section 401 Water Quality Certification is required for this project. It is the applicant's responsibility to obtain certification from the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection.

HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES: The National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) has been consulted and it has been determined there are no properties currently listed on the register that are in the area affected by the project. This public notice serves as coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer regarding historic properties. If the West Virginia Division of Culture and History (WVDCH) believe any potential effects to historic properties may result from the proposed permitting action, we request they provide information to this office pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

ENDANGERED/THREATENED SPECIES REVIEW: This public notice also serves as coordination with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) regarding threatened or endangered species. The proposed project lies within the distribution range of the Bald Eagle (Haliaeetus leucocephalus), Indiana Bat (Myotis sodalis), and Eastern Cougar (Felis concolor cougar), as indicated from the state list provided by the USFWS website (revised April 12, 2002). If the Service believes any potential effects to federally listed species would be attributable to the Huntington District's proposed permitting action, we request the Service provide information pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1972 (as amended).

PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW AND COMMENT: Any person who has an interest that may be adversely affected by the issuance of a permit may request a public hearing. The request must be submitted in writing to the District Engineer on or before the expiration date of this notice and must clearly set forth the interest which may be adversely affected and the manner in which the interest may be adversely affected by the activity.

Interested parties are invited to state any objections they may have to the proposed work. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit that reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors that may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; of those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production,

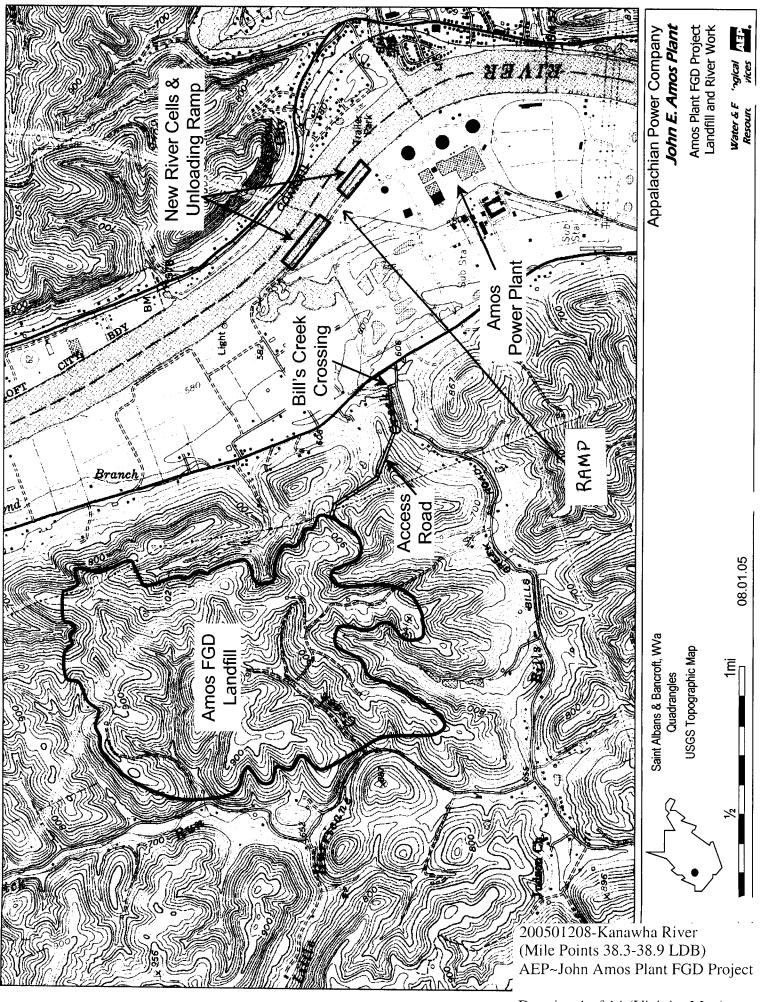
mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. In addition, the evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under the authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act. Written statements on these factors received in this office on or before the expiration date of this public notice will become a part of the record and will be considered in the final determination. A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest.

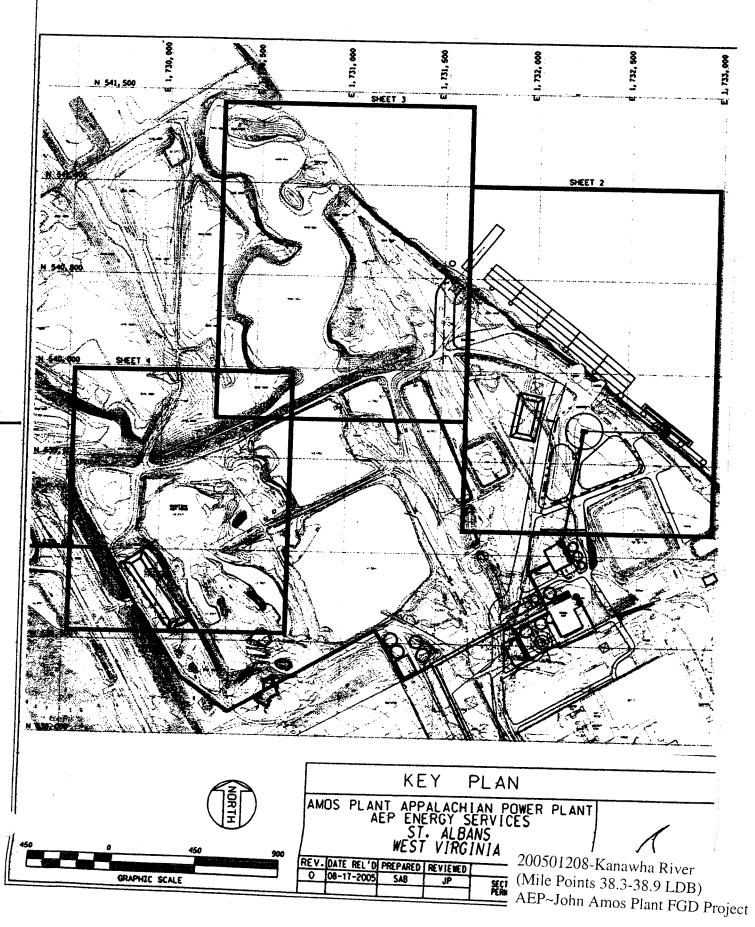
SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS: The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. For accuracy and completeness of the administrative record, all data in support of or in opposition to the proposed work should be submitted in writing setting forth sufficient detail to furnish a clear understanding of the reasons for support or opposition. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

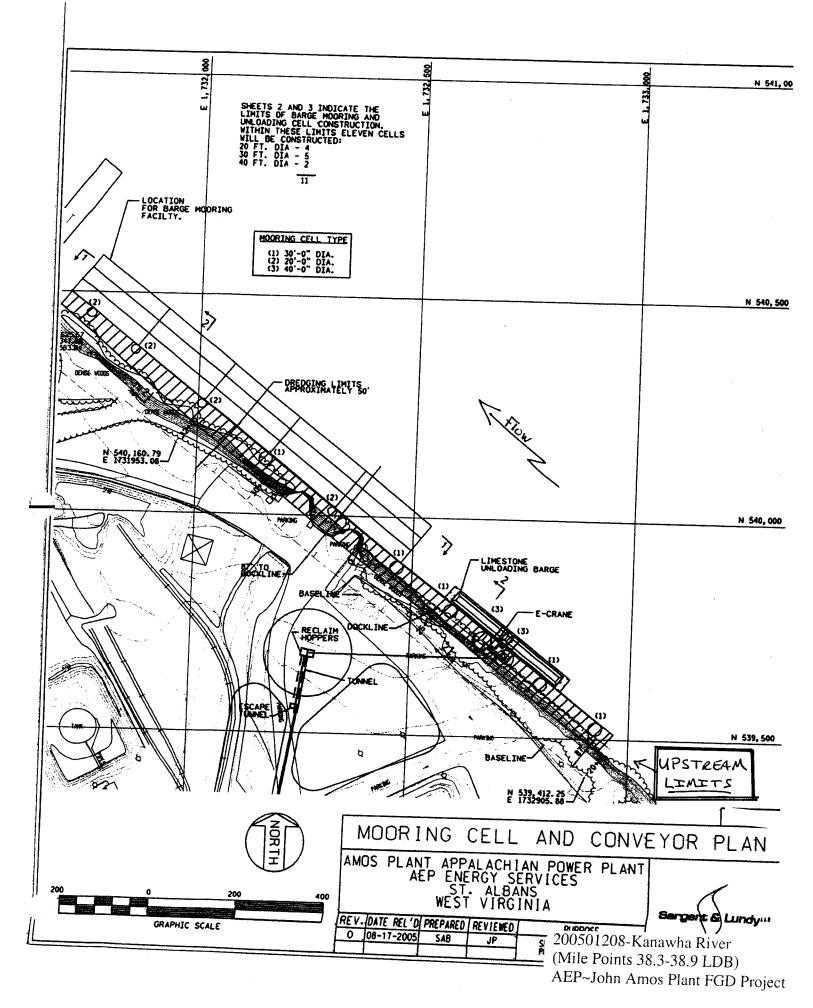
CLOSE OF COMMENT PERIOD: All comments pertaining to this Public Notice must reach this office on or before the close of the comment period listed on page one of this Public Notice. If no comments are received by that date, it will be considered that there are no objections. Comments and requests for additional information should be submitted to Mr. Michael Hatten, Project Manager, South Regulatory Section, CELRH-OR-FS, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Huntington District, 502 Eighth Street, Huntington, West Virginia 25701-2070. Please note names and addresses of those who submit comments in response to this public notice may be made publicly available. Thank you for your interest in our nation's water resources. If you have any questions concerning this public notice, please call Mr. Hatten at (304) 399-5710.

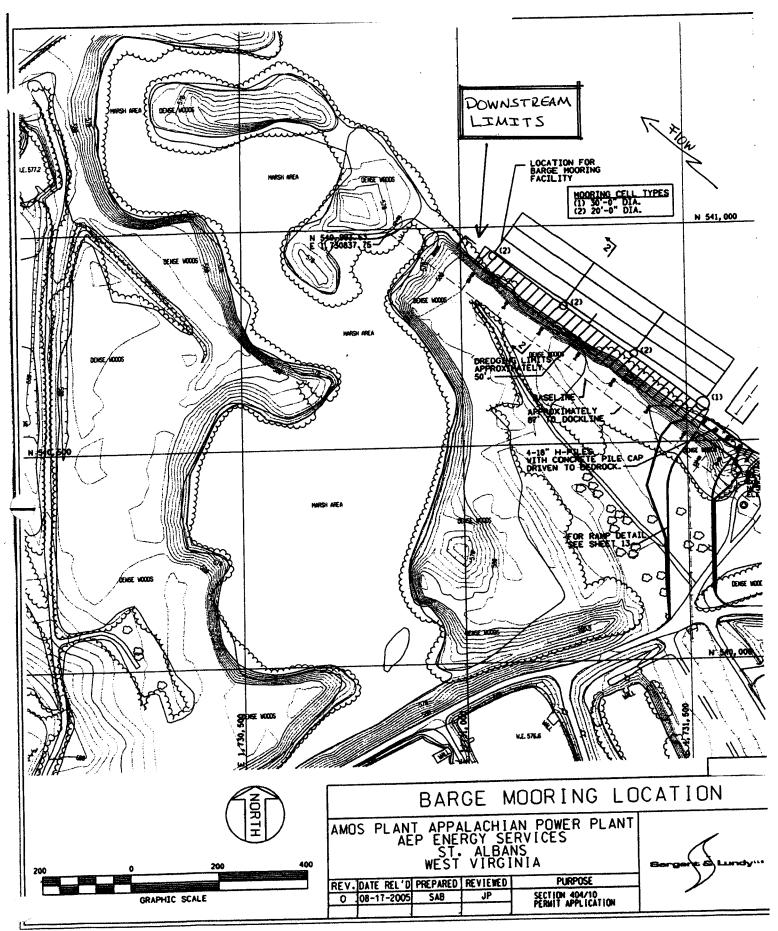
Ginger Mullins, Chief Regulatory Branch

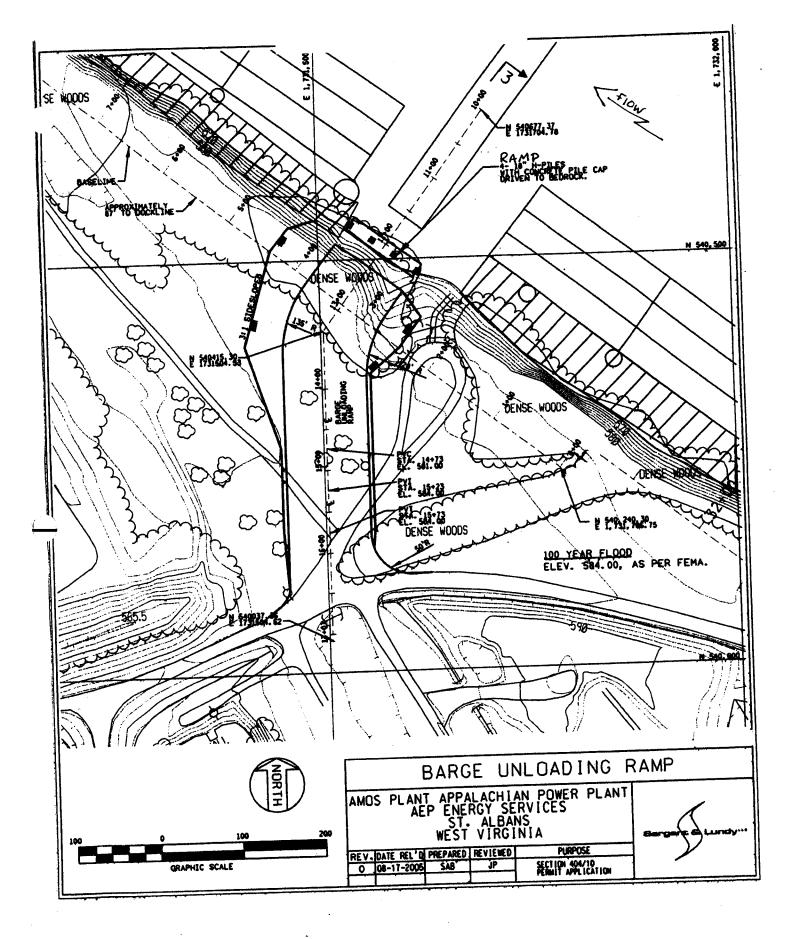
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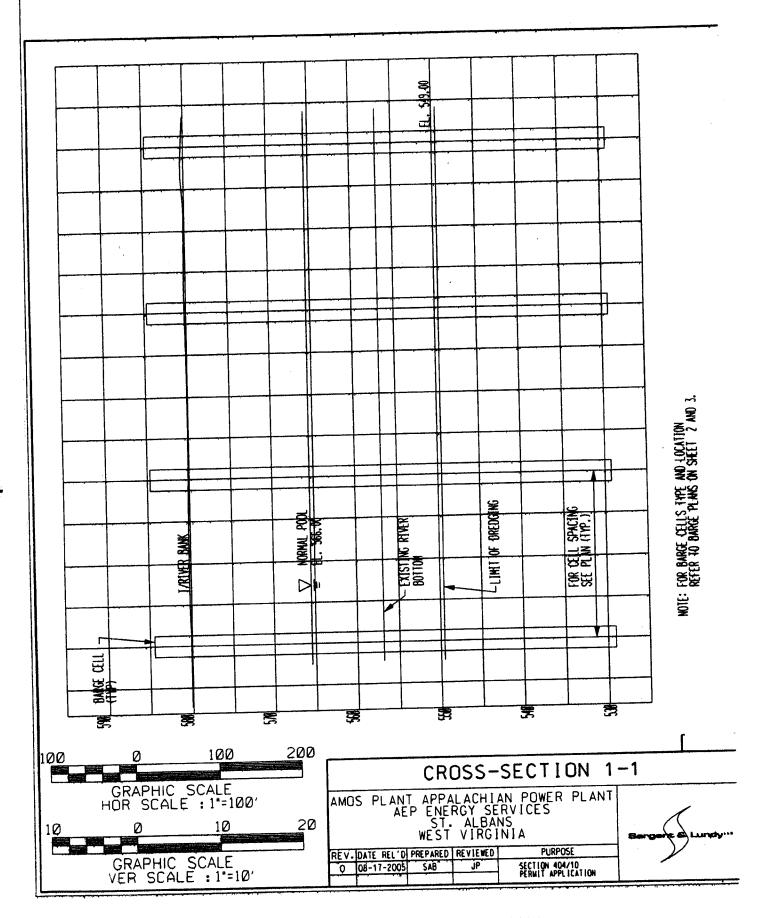


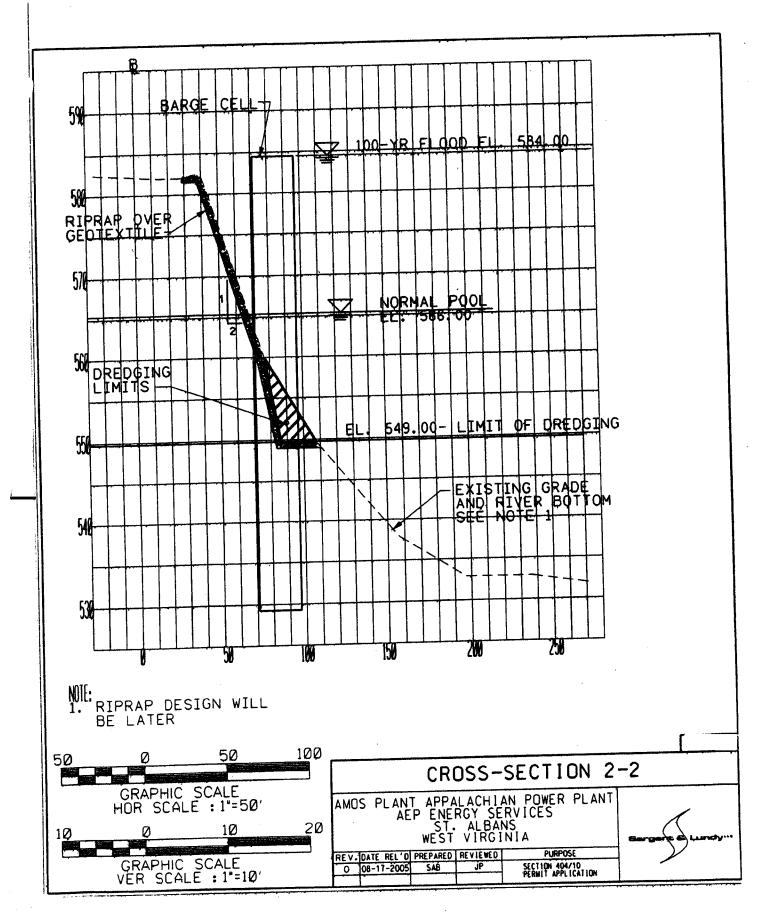


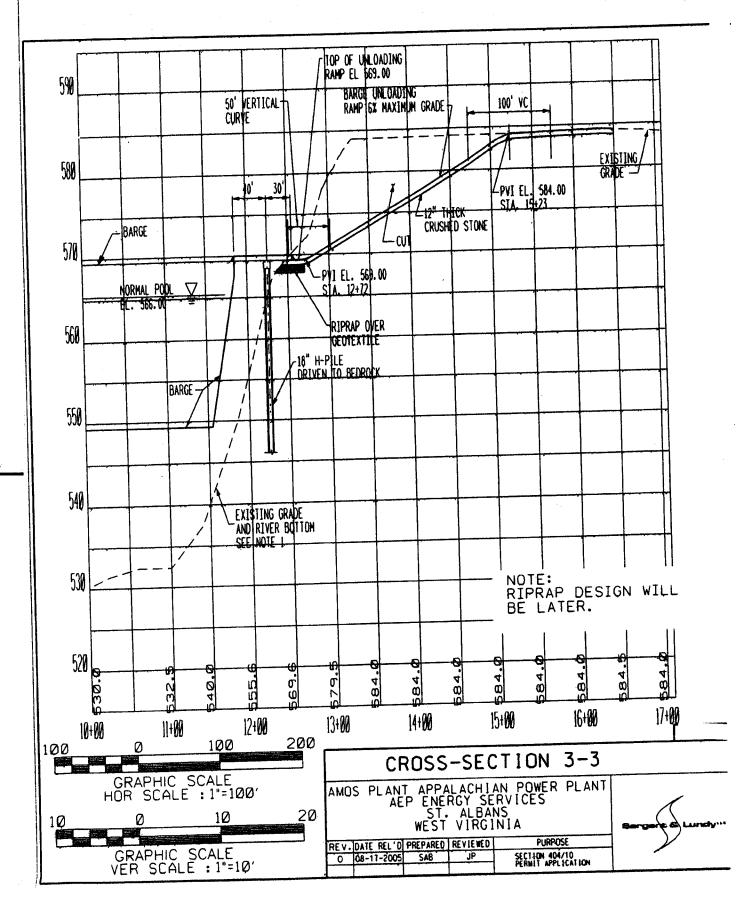


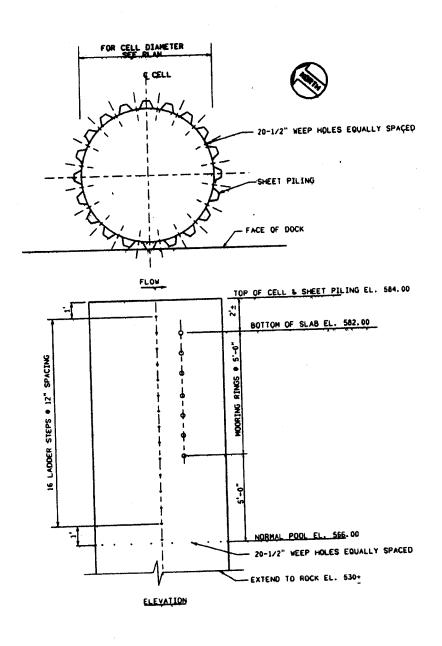


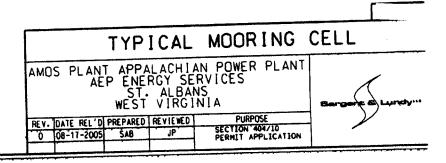


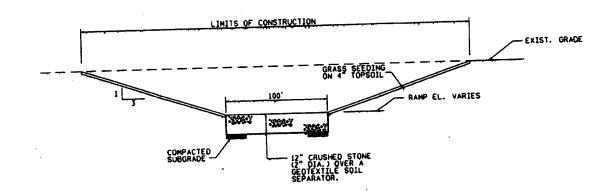












NOTE: MAXIMUM LONGITUDINAL RAMP GRADE IS 6%

SECTION TYPICAL RAMP CROSS

AMOS PLANT APPALACHIAN POWER PLANT AEP ENERGY SERVICES ST. ALBANS WEST VIRGINIA

REV-DATE REL'D PREPARED REVIEWED
O 08-17-2005 SAB JP PURPOSE SECTION 404/10 PERMIT APPLICATION



